

(WASHINGTON) ---Congressman Allen West (FL-22) released this statement today as America awaits President Barack Obama's jobs initiative speech Thursday night:

"Just this past week, we have learned there has not been one new net job created in the United States of America.

Somehow in three short years, we have taken a bad situation and exacerbated it to epic proportions. It is not just the debt and deficits which have grown to astronomical proportions in these years, but now we face something which is a complete anathema to our principles- an attitude towards business which is completely anti-growth.

Up to this point, we have had a President who is unwilling to admit his economic policies have failed.

My question for the President is, 'What is the purpose of Thursday's address, since you want all of Congress to sit attentively? Will we finally receive a written plan, or must we again seek to score or evaluate yet another speech?'

I ask the President to please address the following Thursday night:

- Structural tax reform included but not limited to a flat tax; 21 % corporate rate, no loopholes or subsidies, 13% to 16% personal tax rate with only child tax credit and mortgage interest tax deduction
- Reducing regulatory burdens to allow private sector growth, encouraging reasonable, logical regulations
- Eliminating capital gains, dividends and estate tax

- Ceasing quantitative easing policies
- Establishing fiscal policies that stimulate long term economic job growth, not more government "investing" Keynesian policies
- Targeting economic growth in urban inner cities with focused policies (16.7 % adult black unemployment, more than 40 % black teenage unemployment)
- Taking a scalpel to the federal government in order to reduce its size and scope

I challenge the President tomorrow night, not to give Americans a politicized campaign speech, but to stop the blame game, and to stop the bullying. Now more than ever, Americans need a principled, focused leader who is willing to admit his mistakes, and bring forth real,tangible solutions for getting this country out of the worst economic crisis in a generation. I will be awaiting the President's solutions."

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